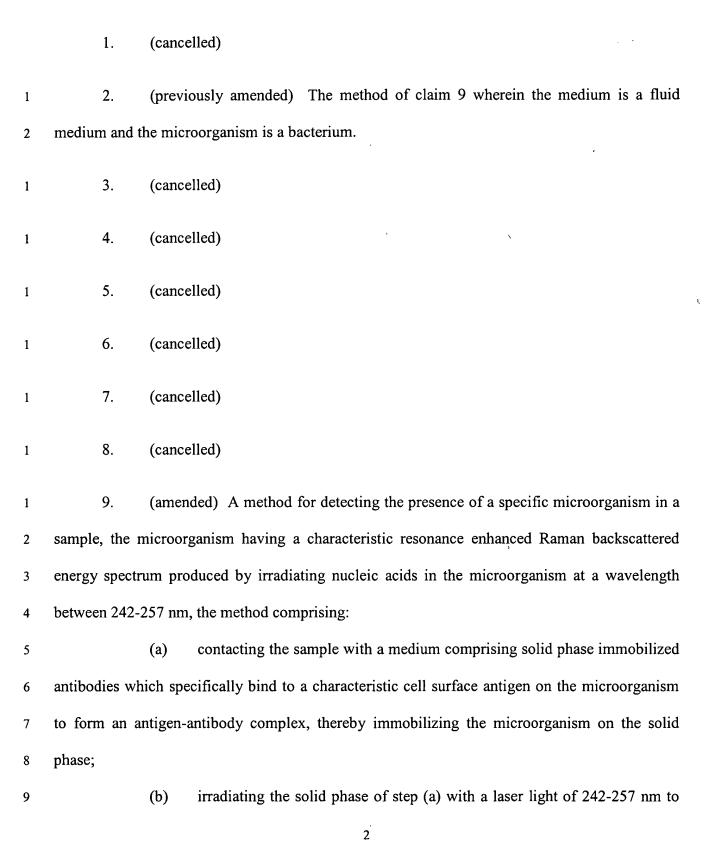
IN THE CLAIMS:



- produce a resonance enhanced Raman backscattered energy; and
- spectrum to detect the presence of the microorganism in the sample, the method detecting the presence of the microorganism, when at least a 200:1 ratio of solid phase immobilized antibodies in the medium to microorganism in the sample exists.
- 1 10. (previously amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the solid phase of step (a)
 2 is washed to remove unbound sample and medium before the irradiating step (b).
- 1 11. (amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the characteristic spectrum is at 2 149885cm⁻¹
- 1 12. (cancelled)
- 1 13. (previously amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the bacterium is E.coli and
- the antibodies are anti-*E.coli*.
- 1 14. (cancelled)
- 1 15. (cancelled)
- 1 16. (cancelled)